

**Summary of the Notes taken by Mark S. Rentz
regarding the
PMAC Meeting, February 23, 2005**

Attendance: 35 persons, including DPR staff. See attendance list at end of these notes.

1. Director's Report (Mary-Ann Warmerdam)

- Meeting Dates:
 - PMAC will meet on a quarterly basis.
 - 2005 Dates:
 - Tuesday, May 10, 10 am, Cal/EPA Building, Sacramento
 - Thursday, August 11, Southern California Field Trip (Riverside or San Diego)
 - Thursday, November 10, 10 am, Cal/EPA Building, Sacramento
- Open Discussion on PMAC Composition:
 - Mary-Ann Warmerdam – Want a balanced representation of the various perspectives interested in DPR issues and policies. Will unroll PMAC membership at Spring Quarter meeting (May 10).
 - Other comments:
 - Day-to-day practicing farmer.
 - Water quality representative.
 - Practicing pest controller on PMAC.
 - Adequate community representation.
- Legislation and Budget (Chris Reardon, DPR)
 - AB 1011: DPR “Big Box” legislation. B. Matthews author.
 - AB 1730: DPR “Data Comp” legislation. D. LaMalfa author.
 - SB 782: Pesticide use reporting (spot bill). J. Denham author.
 - SB 509: Pesticide notification. D. Flores author.
 - AB 405: Pesticide use near school sites. C. Montanez.
 - BUDGET: DPR does not expect any great discussions regarding its budget – 95% of DPR’s funding comes from mill assessment and increases in mill assessment were addressed last year.

2. Environmental Justice (Veda Federighi & Randy Segawa) HANDOUT 1

- Definitions: Interagency Working Group (IWG) approved definitions for “cumulative effects” and “precautionary approach”. Both definitions are work-in-progress and will be modified over course of pilot projects implementation.
- Pilot Projects: 6 pilot projects (including one DPR project) approved by IWG. All address four common elements:
 - Children’s health.
 - Cumulative effects.
 - Precautionary approach.
 - Public participation.

- DPR Pilot Project:
 - Monitor air for 21 pesticides in and around city of Parlier.
 - Parlier selected after evaluating 83 communities.
 - Will consult with Local Advisory Committee (LAC).
 - Taking advantage of existing local group.
 - May bring in EJ people from Fresno.
 - PMAC members should query their constituencies to ensure local interests are represented.
 - All meetings will be noticed and open to the public.
- Comments from PMAC members:
 - Parlier excellent place for ambient air monitoring. Look at extending project beyond 1 year.
 - Community response to selection of Parlier: DPR communicated with some community leaders and generally received support.
 - Budget for pilot project: \$ for DPR pilot project comes from DPR \$ previously assigned to air quality monitoring.
 - Next meeting on EJ pilot projects: Couple weeks to discuss DPR pilot project.

3. **Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) (Paul Gosselin & Randy Segawa)**
HANDOUT 2

- Background on VOCs and Air Quality
 - Projected VOC levels are calculated using a model as opposed to measured levels. Calculation is based on % of product that is considered VOC.
 - 90% of pesticide VOCs associated with agricultural operations.
 - Achieved pesticide VOC targets for most non-attainment areas.
- Regulatory approach to emulsifiable concentrate (EC) VOCs
 - Need to shore up data gaps.
 - Within three weeks DPR will issue a notice regarding call in for data for approximately 800 products.
 - Registrants have 60 days to respond as to how they will assist in filling gaps.
 - Registrants have until end of 2005 to submit data.
 - Reevaluation and reformulation.
 - DPR will evaluate each product and determine whether it needs reformulation.
 - Must lower VOCs for liquid ECs.
 - Reformulation will be applicable statewide not just in San Joaquin Valley.
 - Project to be completed within 4 years.
 - This is not the only DPR strategy to address VOCs.
 - Reformulation will work in some areas and not others.
 - Not going after VOC reductions at all costs to registrants and users.

- PMAC members' comments
 - EC strategy will likely affect every grower in the state.
 - California leads other states in addressing VOCs in pesticides.
 - Concern that once complete reformulation some of the tools for controlling pests may be eliminated without feasible replacement.
 - Need to consider operation modifications to address pesticide VOCs – should not focus so heavily on pesticide reformulation.
 - Concern that eliminating some pest management tools from “tool box” without feasible replacements.
 - Concern that a large number of crops will be significantly impacted in terms of production by reformulating ECs.
 - **(HANDOUT 3)**
 - Concern that this effort will put portions of California's agribusiness at a competitive disadvantage.
 - Need this effort as part of a broader DPR mission and pest management strategy.
 - How does DPR plan on dealing with fumigants?
 - Need to develop research strategy as part of the package.
 - Concern that DPR is not adequately focusing on fumigants that are a significant contributor to pesticide VOCs.
 - ARB: Will need reductions across the board, not just from pesticides, to meet 8-hour standards. Solutions must be feasible and economical. One strategy ARB is considering is VOC credits/tracking. ARB does not want to mandate to DPR how its goes about reducing VOCs. Leave it to DPR and agriculture community to resolve collaboratively.
 - ARB Research Projects:
 - Real life emissions from fumigant use. Expand options for fumigant use including operation controls.
 - Impact of pesticides on ozone and air quality. Ongoing project.
 - **DPR Director: Will keep this issue on PMAC agenda for discussions at future meetings.**

4. **OPEN DISCUSSION: Pest Management in the 21st Century**

- Director's comments
 - Strategy should be designed to position DPR to achieve its mission, goals and objectives over the next 10 years.
 - Strategy that takes into account the broad spectrum of pesticide users not just agriculture.
 - Need to take into account California's changing demographics (e.g. expanding urbanization).
 - Strategy must ensure environmental and economic balance taking into account equity and environmental justice.

- PMAC members' comments
 - Need to look beyond chemistry pesticides of today and prepare to address new pest management approaches such as genetic chemistry/engineering.
 - Integrate pest management efforts with programs for other resources (e.g. water quality, wildlife & fisheries) – ecological approach. Address pollution reduction from a multi-media perspective.
 - Revitalize research efforts so can address concerns expressed with pest management activities, determine effectiveness of mitigation measures and assess alternative approaches to pest management (IPM).
 - Expand/develop public-private research partnerships.
 - Expanding urban interface needs to be a significant component of the DPR strategy.
 - Identify and pursue alternative funding sources for research, monitoring, training and education.
 - Need to ensure that any strategy provides enough flexibility to take into account variety of individual agriculture commodities.
 - Initially consider performance-based (i.e. end-result) approaches as opposed to regulatory mandates. Will require commitment to effectiveness and trend monitoring.
 - Promote sustainable pest management practices within context of sustainable agriculture principles. Strategy needs to look beyond regulating pesticides.
 - Identify and promote funding opportunities to assist agriculture achieve environmental objectives.
 - DPR needs to be proactively involved in pest management issues in other forums (e.g. regional water boards).
 - Strategy needs to include a communications/PR component. Should market DPR procedures, policies and accomplishments and promote IPM.
 - Identify opportunities to promote reduced-risk commodities.
 - If DPR is going to pursue consumer products as a revenue source than DPR should ensure that consumer products are the beneficiary of that revenue (e.g. assessment of consumer products completed in a timely manner).
- Elements – Pest Management in the 21st Century Strategy (Initial List)
 - Improve coordination with other agencies.
 - Integrate pest management with other environmental objectives (e.g. water quality, air quality, wildlife and fisheries protections).
 - DPR strategy should move beyond pesticide regulation. Integrated Pest Management.
 - Emphasize science driven approaches to regulating pest management options.
 - Ensure flexibility in pest management program.
 - Promote performance-based approaches as alternative
 - Education and Training programs.
 - Communications/marketing element.
 - Address expanding urban interface areas.

- Address changing approaches to pest management (e.g. genetic engineering).
- Address consumer products in a manner that ensures equal treatment, including expenditure of DPR \$\$.

Volunteers for “Pest Management Strategy in 21st Century” Working Group:

- Pam Marrone, Agra Quest
- Cliff Ohmart, Lodi Woodbridge Wine Grape Commission
- Bob Bugg, University of California
- Kevin Keiffer, Western Plant Health Association
- Ann Katten, California Rural Legal Assistance Foundation
- Barry Wilson, University of California, Davis
- Bill Thomas, Livingston & Mattesich
- Pete Price, California League of Conservation Voters
- David Tamayo, Sacramento County Department of Water Resources